

REMARKS

In view of the above amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections and rejections set forth in the Office Action of August 21, 2003, are earnestly solicited.

Claims 2 and 9 have been canceled, claims 1, 7, 8 and 18 have been amended, and claims 12-14 have been added, leaving claims 1, 3-8 and 10-14 pending in this application.

The objection to claim 7 is believed mooted by the above amendment to claim 7.

The rejection of claims 1-5 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and claims 6-8 and 10-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) are believed mooted by the incorporation of the allowable subject matter of canceled claim 9 into independent claims 1 and 8. New claims 12-14 are directed likewise to the fault prevention element of the converter and are therefore believed to be allowable. Specification support for claims 12-14 is found at page 10 of the specification.

Claims 1, 7, 8 and 10, as currently amended, claims 3-6 and 11, as originally submitted, and new claims 12-14 are therefore believed to be in condition for allowance, early acknowledgment of which is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OFFICIAL

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By:

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